

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01

TRSE-00 AID-05 /059 W

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O R 211358Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1690

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION NATO

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE

USDOCOSOUTH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, GR, US

SUBJECT: CONTINUED PRESS PLAY ON APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR
SCHAUFLELE

REF: ATHENS 6752 (DTG 201247Z JUL 77)

1. THE CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLELE'S APPOINTMENT TO GREECE REMAINS A PROMINENT TOPIC IN THE ATHENS PRESS. AN AP FILE BY GEORGE GEDDA IS THE BASIS FOR MOST OF THE MORNING REPORTING, WITH VARIOUS NEWSPAPERS ACCENTING DIFFERENT SEGMENTS, WHILE THE AFTERNOON PAPERS ARE FULLY DOMINATED BY A SECOND GEDDA DISPATCH ACCORDING TO WHICH A USG SOURCE CONFIRMED IN WASHINGTON THAT THE GOG HAD ASKED THAT THE SCHAUFLELE NOMINATION
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BE RECONSIDERED.

2. THE FIRST GEDDA STORY IN ESSENCE SAYS THAT HIGH LEVEL MEETINGS ARE BEING HELD ON HOW TO HANDLE THE MATTER, INCLUDING A VEST-KUBISCH MEETING. MENTIONED IS AMBASSADOR KUBISCH'S REFUSAL TO ANSWER QUESTIONS OF REPORTERS AFTER THE ENCOUNTER. GEDDA ALSO CITES A "US OFFICIAL" AS BEING

CRITICAL OF THE GREEK INTERPRETATIONS OF AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE'S STATEMENTS, BUT STRESSES THAT US OFFICIALS STATED THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION IS ANXIOUS TO PRESERVE FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH GREECE IN KEEPING WITH ITS OBJECTIVES OF PROMOTING A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY.

3. THE SECOND GEDDA DISPATCH, CITING "ADMINISTRATION SOURCES", REPORTS THE GOG OFFICIALLY HAS REQUESTED RECONSIDERATION OF AMBASSADOR'S SCHAUFLE'S APPOINTMENT. IT CONTINUES THAT, ALTHOUGH THE USG IS RESISTING SUCH PRESSURE, THE OFFICIAL SUPPORT DOES NOT MEAN IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS THAT THE AMBASSADOR WILL BE SENT TO ATHENS. THE GOG'S REQUEST IS SAID TO BE BASED ON ITS OPPOSITION TO THE "PRO-TURKISH" DISPOSITION OF THE AMBASSADOR. THE DISPATCH ALSO POINTS TO THE DILEMMA FACED BY THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WHICH SEEKS TO CONTINUE THE IMPROVEMENT IN US-GREEK RELATIONS, THE FINALIZATION OF THE BASE AGREEMENT AND THE SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS QUESTION.

4. OPPOSITION, LIBERAL TO VIMA CONTINUES TO LEAD THE ATTACK ON AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE'S NOMINATION. UNDER SIX COLUMN HEADLINES READING "AGONIZING ATTEMPTS TO PRESSURE CARER TO RECALL SCHAUFLE," TO VIMA CLAIMS THAT AMBASSADOR KUBISCH NOW IN WASHINGTON TO REPORT ON THE CLIMATE IN ATHENS AND BEARING A MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS, IS URGING THE APPOINTMENT NOT TO GO THROUGH. INCLUDED IN THE ACCOUNT IS A REPORT FROM NEW YORK BY CORRESPONDENT EFTHATHIADIS THAT PRESIDENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CARTER AND SECRETARY VANCE ARE SEIZED WITH THE ISSUE, BUT THAT THE WHITE HOUSE HAS AFFIRMED THERE IS NO REASON TO RECONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT. IN THE SAME PARAGRAPH, NEVERTHELESS, EFSTATHIADIS REPORTS THAT KUBISCH'S SILENCE AFTER HIS MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST INDICATES THE MATTER IS NOT CLOSED. THE STORY THEN MAINTAINS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WILL NOT RECALL THE APPOINTMENT BECAUSE TO DO SO WOULD CREATE AN "ENORMOUS" INCIDENT WITH THE SENATE WHICH HAS ALREADY GIVEN ITS APPROVAL. EDITORIALY, TO VIMA RENEWED ITS CRITICISM OF AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE'S INADEQUACIES AND CONTENTED IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO CARRY OUT HIS MISSION BECAUSE OF THE ADVERSE CLIMATE WHICH HAS BEEN CREATED. FINALLY, A FRONT-PAGE ITEM VICIOUSLY INQUIRES WHETHER THE US IS IMPOSING ON GREECE AN "IDIOTIC DIPLOMAT" OR A "SUSPICIOUS POLICY." THE EFSTATHIADIS ARTICLE AND THE MEAT OF THE EDITORIAL ARE LIKewise REPEATED IN TO VIMA'S AFTERNOON COMPANION, LEFTST TA NEA.

5. EXTREME RIGHT ELEFTHEROS COSMOS, ON THE OTHER HAND, HEADLINED THAT THE APPOINTMENT WAS FOUNDER ING. AFTER REPEATING THE ESSENCE OF THE FIRST AP STORY, THE ARTICLE REFERS TO "GOOD SOURCES IN ATHENS" AS CONTENDING THE USG HAS MADE THE DECISION NOT TO SEND AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE AND THAT THE

GOG HAD BEEN INFORMED ACCORDINGLY. THE STORY PREDICTS A DEPARTMENT OF STATE ANNOUNCEMENT TO THIS EFFECT WILL COME ON FRIDAY, AND THAT A NEW NOMINATION WILL NOT BE MADE SOON.

6. EXAMPLES OF AFTERNOON HEADLINES INCLUDE: LEFTIST ELEFROTYPYIA:
"CARAMANLIS TO CARTER: CHANGE SCHAUFEL, HE IS TURKOPHILE -
TENSION IN THE RELATIONS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES;" PRO-GOVERNMENT
APOGEVMATINI: "THE GOVERNMENT ASKS THAT SCHAUFEL NOT COME;"
LEFTIST TA NEA: "THE GREEK GOVERNMENT OFFICIALLY REQUESTED
FROM WASHINGTON THAT SCHAUFEL NOT COME - IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO FULFILL
HIS DUTY;" ULTRA CONSERVATIVE ESTIA: "THE APPOINTMENT OF
SCHAUFEL IS CANCELLED."
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770735/aaaabeae.tel
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TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, GR, US, (SCHAUFELLE, WILLIAM E JR)
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